



THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN OF THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES GRAND AERIE

International Convention Returns To Reno

Join us July 17-21 in Reno, Nevada for the 2016 Fraternal Order of Eagles International Convention.

As usual, Aerie and Auxiliary Sessions will begin at 9 a.m. Monday-Thursday with the Aerie in the Summit Ballroom and the Auxiliary in the Reno Ballroom.

Evening events include:

Sunday, July 17

Welcome To Reno Show

Creedence Clearwater Revisited
Comedian Phil Palisoul
Admission Free w/ Registration

Monday, July 18

Ladies' Auxiliary Banquet

Elvis Tribute Artist Rob Ely
\$30 per-person, includes meal

Eagles Night Out

Karaoke with Hondo!
Admission Free w/ Registration

Tuesday, July 19

Prayer Breakfast

\$20 per-person, includes meal

Mr. & Mrs. Banquet

"It Is What It Was - The Music of Elvis"

Comedian Mike Rayburn
\$40 per-person, includes meal

Wednesday, July 20

Eagles Talent Show & Parade of Champions

Admission Free w/ Registration



F.O.E. Donates Ekso GT Suit To Minneapolis VA Hospital

Douglas Eckhoff rose from his chair, carefully pacing through the atrium of the Minneapolis Veterans Affairs Hospital to the front of the facility's Auditorium.

Last August, the walk seemed impossible, but thanks to Ekso Bionics' Ekso GT suit, the impossible is becoming more possible with each passing day.

Eckhoff was on hand May 18 to showcase the benefits of the suit as the Fraternal Order of Eagles and Soldier Strong formally donated a new \$150,000 unit to the VA Hospital to assist with veterans' rehabilitation efforts.

After shattering his T12 vertebra in a motorcycle accident last summer, Eckhoff, a Minnesota native and veteran, began rehabbing at the Minneapolis VA using a first-generation Ekso GT model. In the time since, he's regained the ability to walk independently with the use of a cane and custom orthotics.

"(When I first started), I took, like,

10 steps and they could tell just by the way I walked – from the way I started until after the machine – it was just incredible," Eckhoff said. "Everything

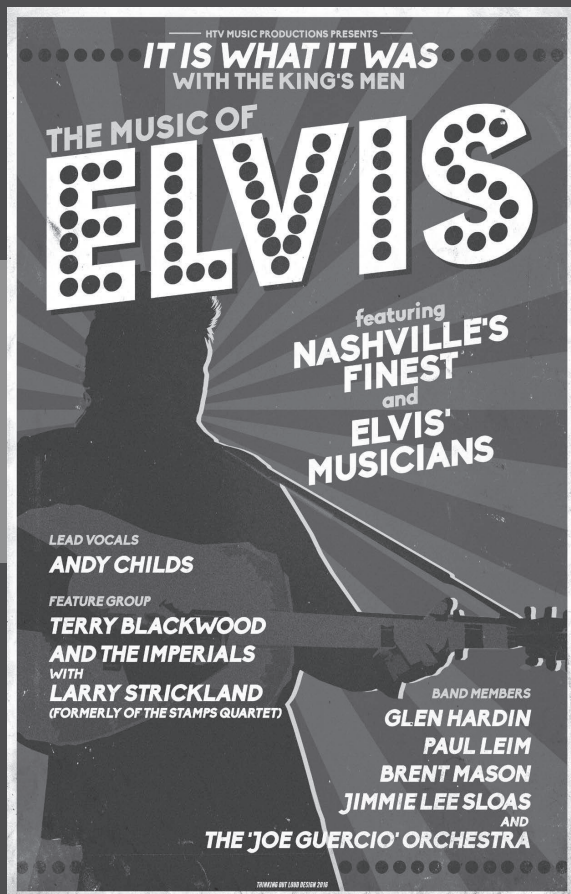
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Help the F.O.E. with the purchase of more Ekso GT suits by making a donation to the Lew Reed Spinal Cord Injury Fund with Ekso Project notated in the memo line.

**Donations can be sent to:
F.O.E. Charity Foundation
1623 Gateway Circle South
Grove City, OH 43123**

CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF A LEGEND

2016 MR. & MRS. BANQUET • SUMMIT BALLROOM • JULY 19 • 6 P.M.



TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW AT \$40 PER-PERSON.
INCLUDES MEAL AND ENTERTAINMENT.
PURCHASE NOW!

Top Producers/ New Leaders

for April 2016

Aerie:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----|
| 1. #4294 Burnham, PA | 51 |
| 2. #370 Lima, OH | 48 |
| 3. #4264 New Market, VA | 43 |
| 4. #4299 Lake Havasu City, AZ | 42 |
| 5. #486 Coeur d'Alene, ID | 39 |

Auxiliary:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----|
| 1. #4299 Lake Havasu City, AZ | 29 |
| 2. #2308 Puyallup, WA | 19 |
| 3. #925 Grand Haven, MI | 17 |
| #1758 Waynesboro, PA | 17 |
| #2371 Adrian, MI | 17 |

Aerie (Individual):

- | | |
|-----------------------|----|
| 1. Ronald G. Pigeon | 23 |
| #4488 Stafford, VA | |
| George A. Dillon | 23 |
| #386 Senecaville, OH | |
| 3. Larry E. Hall | 17 |
| #3293 Dunbar, PA | |
| 4. Martha V. Newton | 16 |
| #3296 Punta Gorda, FL | |
| 5. David Winters | 13 |
| #1496 Columbiana, OH | |

Auxiliary (Individual):

- | | |
|--------------------------|----|
| 1. Connie J. Puff | 10 |
| #3646 Rose City, MI | |
| Lavonne D. Ehrhart | 10 |
| #1758 Greencastle, PA | |
| 3. Rhoda Wilson | 9 |
| #830 Junction City, KS | |
| 4. Brandie C. Dewey | 8 |
| #741 Edinburgh, IN | |
| 5. Sheila Kulhanek #3990 | 7 |
| Judith A. Robinson #26 | 7 |
| Melody Sutter #2371 | 7 |



The Fraternal Order of Eagles Soar
1623 Gateway Circle South
Grove City, Ohio 43123
www.foe.com

Call

General Questions - 614-883-2200
Marketing Questions - 614-883-2210
Membership Questions - 614-883-2177

Email

marketing@foe.com

Fax

614-883-2201

We Are People Helping People

California

-On March 19, the California State Eagles held their annual Eagles Tribute at City of Hope in Duarte. State Chairman Margaret Campbell and State Co-Chairman Jan Hicks attended with more than 125 Eagles on tours and for lunch featuring a guest speaker battling cancer. Certificates were given to all state officers and many thanks were expressed to the Eagles for their continued support.

-Brisbane #3255 held a Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner on St. Patrick's Day, raising \$1,114 which will be given to the Jimmy Durante Children's Fund.

-Rick Huebner and Sandy Martinez, Aerie Secretary, presented a donation to Kimberly Breaux of the Needles Community Scholarship Committee. Money was raised with a generous donation from Rick and from our membership through the Charity of the Month program. Rick's donation was made in memory of Adrian Bender.

Illinois

-Blue Island Eagles #1332 donated multiple cases of supplies to the Ronald McDonald House in Oak Lawn, Ill.

Minnesota

-Detroit Lakes Eagles Aerie 2342 Past President's recently donated \$2,500 to the Becker County Food Pantry during their annual March drive. The Detroit Lakes Eagles are a "People Helping People" organization and donate to several community, school, area, and national needs and causes throughout the year. They raise funds through charitable gaming such as bingo, pull tabs, meat boards, and electronic horse racing. They also raise funds through benefits and other fundraisers.

-Detroit Lakes Eagles #2342 had five Aerie members provide a style show for the District 2 Eagles Aeries and Auxiliaries. The Master of Ceremonies for the show was Minnesota State Madam President Mary Lee.

Nebraska

-Bellevue Eagles #3912 recently partnered with a local church and will be running a food pantry once a quarter from the Aerie.

Nevada

-Basic Aerie #2672 in Henderson raised \$6,500 at their annual golf tournament on Feb. 20, 2016. On March 12, 2016, a donation of \$6,500 was

Mason-Dixon Conference



At the 2016 Mason-Dixon Conference held at Fredericksburg, Va., #4123 on April 1-2. Members from Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York and New Jersey gathered to meet and fundraise to help Grand Worthy President-Elect Jerry Sullivan, a member of the Fredericksburg Aerie, and Grand Madam President-Elect Judy Johnson with their expenses for the coming year. Events also included Pennies From Heaven, where the President-Elects sweep up the pennies and other currency tossed onto the floor. That money is presented to them at the Grand Convention for their chosen charities.

made to the Veterans Care Foundation toward the soon to be opened Veterans Transition Center in Las Vegas, Nev. The transition center will assist newly returned veterans and their families in restarting their lives.

Ohio

-Zanesville #302 donated \$5,000 to Zanesville Police Department to help purchase tasers for their officers.

-Miami Valley #1395's Auxiliary presented a check for \$2,153 to Tom Davidson of the Lebanon Food Pantry. The money was raised by the Ladies' Auxiliary to help feed those in need in the area. The Miami Valley Aerie and Auxiliary combined to donate \$3,460 to the Abuse, Rape & Crisis Shelter of Lebanon. The money was raised during the Eagles' Meat Raffle/Auction in March.

Oregon

-North Lincoln Eagles #2576 Auxiliary President Sandi Randleman and Aerie President Mike Jones recently presented a check for \$1,000 to Taft

7-12 Music Teacher Andy Hordichok. The Taft Music Program has been the joint project of the local Presidents for the 2015-16 year. The funds will be used to take students to the Oak Park Music Festival in Portland. Mr. Hordichok expressed his gratitude and said the donation will allow some students to make the trip who would have been otherwise unable to attend.

Wisconsin

-Merrill Aerie #584 presented a donation of \$100 to the Merrill High School Band Trip to Disney World.

-Merrill Aerie and Auxiliary #584 recently held their March Pancake Breakfast Benefit to help raise money for the Stem Cell Research Project at the University of Wisconsin in Madison – the state project of Worthy State President Scott Doer and Madam State President Sandra Skarda. Donations of \$1,123.25 were presented to Doer by Vice President Bob Grusnick and Skarda by Rebecca Kriehn and Madam President Pearl Sabatke.

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was in line, everything was level, everything was moving smooth. I only went like 10 steps and then I started falling apart. But just to be able to know that I could do it again is just huge ... you can't imagine what the feeling is."

The Ekso GT is easily tailored to fit the rehabilitation level of the patient, allowing therapists to have the suit provide full support for those in the initial stages of recovery, or little more than simple stability for more advanced patients. The adjustable nature of the device makes it easier for patients to continue their progressive recovery.

"(The suit) makes our job a whole lot easier," physical therapist Crystal Stein said. "Before the Ekso, we would have them on a treadmill suspended and we would be moving each of their legs forward every step they take and that can take a toll on your body. This is moving the limbs in the exact pattern you want and training them how to do that without us having to lift. We're guarding and providing them with stability but the machine is doing a lot of the training and fine tuning. It helps us tremendously."

Stein also said it's important for patients to have access to the device as quickly as possible. The longer the various systems of the body are subject to immobility, the more difficult it becomes to make those systems active again and retrain them to walk.

Both Stein and Eckhoff noted the mental benefits of the suit. For Eckhoff, the initial attempt to walk again was scary, but as therapy progressed, the feeling of walking by himself continued to push him toward greater successes.

"It's very much an interaction between therapist and veteran to find that balance of how much do I let him do what he needs to accomplish versus how much do I do and then they start to build confidence in their abilities," Stein said.

The F.O.E. and Soldier Strong each donated \$75,000 toward the purchase of the new device for the Minneapolis VA hospital, which is recognized as one of five elite VA hospitals in the country. The new device provides the hospital with the most up-to-date Ekso GT assistance and will enable them to help even more patients as they continue to use the original model for therapeutic purposes.

The Eagles and Soldier Strong formally partnered with Ekso Bionics during the 2015 F.O.E. International Convention in

Milwaukee, Wisc. The ongoing project will continue to raise funds with the help of the Eagles' more than 700,000 members across the United States and Canada to provide a device to VA hospitals in need. The unit donated to the Minneapolis VA was the first donated with the help of the Eagles.

As for Eckhoff, he continues to progress at a solid pace and can drive thanks to the use of custom adaptations made to his vehicle. He hopes to one day ride his motorcycle again.

"Only god knows (my prognosis)," Eckhoff said. "I ask my doctor's all the time and they say nobody knows. If the nerves come back, if the muscles come back, who knows. But every week I get better. Every week I walk farther. It's amazing what happens here."

News & Notes

RV Parking Accommodations Still Available For Reno

Coming to Reno for the International Convention this July 18-21? If you're in an RV, you're in luck. A limited number of RV sites are still available by calling the hotel reservations number. RV sites are \$39/night. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be a part of the Convention. Contact the Grand Sierra Resort today at 800-648-5080.

Showcase Your Special Talents!

Show off your talents in the 2016 International Convention Talent Show, Wednesday, July 20 at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nev. Entries will be accepted from all members in good standing, their children and/or grandchildren. Minor children must be accompanied by an adult. All entries must be submitted by July 1 and all participants are required to report to a designated committee member 30 minutes prior to their scheduled performance. Props and music must be provided by the entrant. Each act must be no longer than four (4) minutes with a one (1) point penalty for each 30 seconds over four minutes. Categories include: Male Vocal, Female Vocal, Variety, Comedy and Instrumental with divisions in each for adult group, adults solo, youth group and youth solo.

For more great 2016 International Convention news and info, visit the Convention page under the About tab at www.foe.com.

2016 PRE-CONVENTION REGISTRATION

AERIE # _____ CITY _____ STATE/PROVINCE _____
(ONLY)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED FOR PRE-REGISTRATION ORDER \$ _____
(Make all checks payable: GRAND AERIE F.O.E. Memo: PRE-REGISTRATION FEE)

* Accredited Representative*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In order for your **Accredited Representative** to cast your Aerie vote, **Per Capita Tax and Membership fees** must be paid in accordance with Sections 40.1 and Article III, Section 2(d), Constitution.

Our Accredited Representative as provided for in Section 1.3 Statutes, F.O.E.

GAID#	Name	Title
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(AERIE SECRETARY: PLEASE COMPLETE THE REPRESENTATIVE CERTIFICATE ENCLOSED IN THE CONVENTION PACKET, SIGN, AND AFFIX THE AERIE SEAL.)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION If there is a last minute change as to who your Accredited Representative shall be and it's too late to send information of this change to the Grand Secretary, then a letter of authority must be given to your Representative, signed by the Worthy President and Worthy Secretary. This letter must then be presented to the Credentials Committee at the Convention.

Other Pre-Registration Members

Pre-Registration Fee, \$45.00 each, must accompany this application. Check (✓) their title after their name. If not a Past President or 10 year secretary (TYS), indicate "Visitor".

GAID#	Name	Past Pres <input type="checkbox"/> TYS <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor <input type="checkbox"/>	Check # OR Credit Card #
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Enclose payment and ALL forms in the envelope provided and mail to:

Grand Secretary
1623 Gateway Circle South
Grove City, Ohio 43123

Please make a copy of this form for your records

2016 PRE-CONVENTION REGISTRATION

AUXILIARY # _____ CITY _____ STATE/PROVINCE _____
(ONLY)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED FOR PRE-REGISTRATION ORDER \$ _____

(Make all checks payable: GRAND AERIE F.O.E. Memo: PRE-REGISTRATION FEE)

* Accredited Representative*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

In order for your **Accredited Representative** to cast your Auxiliary vote, **Per Capita Tax and Membership fees** must be paid in accordance with Sections 2.11 and 48.3 of the Rules and Regulations for the Government of Ladies Auxiliaries, F.O.E.

Our Accredited Representative as provided for in Section 48.3 of the Rules and Regulations, F.O.E.

GAID#	Name	Title
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(AUXILIARY SECRETARY: PLEASE COMPLETE THE REPRESENTATIVE CERTIFICATE ENCLOSED IN THE CONVENTION PACKET, SIGN, AND AFFIX THE AUXILIARY SEAL.)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION If there is a last minute change as to who your Accredited Representative shall be and it's too late to send information of this change to the Grand Secretary, then a letter of authority must be given to your Representative, signed by the Madam President and Madam Secretary. This letter must then be presented to the Credentials Committee at the Convention.

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